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In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1 through 14 and add claims 15 through 38 as follows:

Claims 1 through 14 (canceled).

15 (new). A program for enabling a disk array storage facility to handle overlapped input-output requests to a single logical volume wherein each input-output request contains a plurality of predetermined parameters including an address range and the storage facility includes an overlap polling queue, said program comprising:

- A) a configuration module that establishes a table for the logical volume with entry input-output requests and corresponding parameters including the address range,
- B) a testing module that tests the parameters for each new input-output request with respect to the parameters for input-output request entries in the table including a comparison of the address range in the new input-output request with the address range of each input-output request in the table to determine whether to place the new input-output request on the overlap polling queue, and

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C) a polling module that responds to said testing module by performing one of a plurality of control functions to include enabling the processing of the input-output request by the storage facility by polling the entries on the overlap polling queue.

16 (new). A program as recited in claim 15 wherein said polling module enables the new input-output request to be processed in response to the polling of entries on the overlap polling queue .

17 (new). A program as recited in claim 15 wherein each input-output request includes other parameters and wherein said testing module compares each of the other parameters of the new input-output request with the corresponding parameters of the input-output requests in the table.

18 (new). A program as recited in claim 15 wherein one parameter defines an input-output request that requires the entire logical volume to be dedicated to that input-output request, said testing module including:

- i) a process that terminates the program in response to a first value of the one parameter

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in an existing input-output request in the
table, and

- ii) a process that places the input-output request
on the overlap polling queue in response to a
second value of the one parameter in the new
input-output request.

19 (new). A program as recited in claim 15 wherein an other
parameter has a first value that defines an input-output
request to be processed without interruption, said testing
module including:

- i) a process that places the new input-output
request on the overlap polling queue if the
other parameter for either the new or existing
input-output request has the first value, and
- ii) a process that enables a comparison of the
addresses in the input-output requests if
neither of the new and existing input-output
requests has the first value of the other
parameter.

20 (new). A program as recited in claim 15 wherein said
configuration module establishes the table by a process
that defines the table with a predetermined capacity and a

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process that responds to the receipt of a new input-output request by enabling said testing module after determining the availability of an entry location in the table.

21 (new). A program as recited in claim 20 wherein the storage device includes an available entry polling queue, said program additionally comprising an available entry polling process that interacts with the entries in the available entry polling queue to identify an available entry for the new input-output request.

22 (new). A program as recited in claim 21 wherein said testing module includes a process that determines the availability of an entry in the table by an iterative sequence that tests the availability of an entry in the table over a predetermined interval prior to placing information about the new input-output request on the available entry polling queue.

23 (new). A program as recited in claim 20 wherein each input-output request includes other parameters and wherein said testing module includes a process that compares each of the other parameters of the new input-output request with

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the corresponding parameters of the input-output requests
in the table.

24 (new). A program as recited in claim 23 wherein one
parameter defines an input-output request that requires
the entire logical volume to be dedicated to that input-
output request, said testing module including:

- i) a process that terminates the program in
response to a first value of the one parameter
in an existing input-output request in the
table, and
- ii) a process that places the input-output request
on the overlap polling queue in response to a
second value of the one parameter in the new
input-output request.

25 (new). A program as recited in claim 24 wherein an other
parameter has a first value that defines an input-output
request to be processed without interruption, said testing
module including:

- i) a process that places the new input-output
request on the overlap polling queue if the
other parameter for either the new or existing
input-output request has the first value, and

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- ii) a process that enables the comparison of the addresses in the input-output requests if neither of the new and existing input-output requests has the first value of the other parameter.

26 (new). A program as recited in claim 23 wherein an other parameter has a first value that defines an input-output request to be processed without interruption, said testing module including:

- i) a process that places the new input-output request on the overlap polling queue if the other parameter for either the new or existing input-output request has the first value, and
- ii) a process that enables the comparison of the addresses in the input-output requests if neither of the new and existing input-output requests has the first value of the other parameter.

27 (new). A disk array storage facility enabled to handle overlapped input-output requests to a single logical volume wherein each input-output request contains a plurality of predetermined parameters including an address

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range and said storage facility includes an overlap
polling queue, said disk array storage facility
comprising:

- A) configuration means for establishing a table for the
logical volume with entry input-output requests and
corresponding parameters including the address range,
- B) testing means for testing the parameters
for each new input-output request with respect to the
parameters for input-output request entries in the
table including the means for comparing of the
address range in the new input-output request with
the address range of each input-output request in the
table to determine whether to place the new input-
output request on the overlap polling queue, and
- C) polling means for responding to said testing by
performing one of a plurality of control functions
which control functions include enabling the
processing of the input-output request by the storage
facility including polling the entries on the overlap
polling queue.

28 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 27
wherein said polling means includes means for polling

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entries on the overlap polling queue to enable the new input-output request to be processed.

29 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 27 wherein each input-output request includes other parameters and wherein said testing means includes means for comparing each of the other parameters of the new input-output request with the corresponding parameters of the input-output requests in the table.

30 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 27 wherein one parameter defines an input-output request that requires the entire logical volume to be dedicated to that input-output request, said testing means including:

- i) means for terminating operations in response to a first value of the one parameter in an existing input-output request in the table, and
- ii) means for placing the input-output request on the overlap polling queue in response to a second value of the one parameter in the new input-output request.

31 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 30 wherein an other parameter has a first value that defines

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an input-output request to be processed without interruption, said testing means including:

- i) means for placing the new input-output request on said overlap polling queue if the other parameter for either the new or existing input-output request has the first value, and
- ii) means for enabling the comparison of the addresses in the input-output requests if neither of the new and existing input-output requests has the first value of the other parameter.

32 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 27 wherein said establishing means includes means for defining the table with a predetermined capacity and means for responding to the receipt of a new input-output request by enabling said testing means after determining the availability of an entry location in said table.

33 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 32 wherein the storage device includes an available entry polling queue and available entry polling means for interacting with the entries in the available entry

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polling queue to identify an available entry for the new input-output request.

34 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 33 wherein said testing means includes iterative processing means for iteratively testing the availability of an entry in the table over a predetermined interval prior to placing information about the new input-output request on said available entry polling queue.

35 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 32 wherein each input-output request includes other parameters and wherein said testing means includes means for comparing each of the other parameters of the new input-output request with the corresponding parameters of the input-output requests in said table.

36 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 35 wherein one parameter defines an input-output request that requires the entire logical volume to be dedicated to that input-output request, said testing means including means for terminating operations in response to a first value of the one parameter in an existing input-output request in the table and means for placing the input-output request

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on said overlap polling queue in response to a second value of the one parameter in the new input-output request.

37 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 36 wherein an other parameter has a first value that defines an input-output request to be processed without interruption, said testing means including means for placing the new input-output request on the overlap polling queue if the other parameter for either the new or existing input-output request has the first value and means for enabling the comparison of the addresses in the input-output requests if neither of the new and existing input-output requests has the first value of the other parameter.

38 (new). A disk array storage facility as recited in claim 35 wherein an other parameter has a first value that defines an input-output request to be processed without interruption, said testing means including means for placing the new input-output request on the overlap polling queue if the other parameter for either the new or existing input-output request has the first value and means for enabling the comparison of the addresses in the

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input-output requests if neither of the new and existing
input-output requests has the first value of the other
parameter.